

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A depilating apparatus comprising:

a housing, which housing is designed to accommodate a supply of a depilating tape, wherein the depilating tape can be pulled away from the supply and can then be applied to the skin of a person, and the depilating tape, after application to the skin of a person, adheres to the skin along an application length, and

application means for applying the depilating tape to the skin of a person, and

an opening in the housing, which opening is provided and designed for passing the depilating tape through to the skin of a person,

determination means for determining the application length along which the depilating tape adheres to the skin of a person, and

a heater for heating the depilating tape as the depilating tape is moved relative to the heater, and

a spring having a home position that moves the heater away from the depilating tape,

wherein the determination means are designed to determine different application lengths as desired.

2. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the determination means are equipped with a hand-operated control button and with a blocking means which interacts with the control button on the one hand and with the supply on the other, which control button can be moved between a first position and a second position, and

wherein, with the control button in its first position, the blocking means assumes a release position that enables a pulling away of depilating tape from the supply, and

wherein, with the control button in its second position, the blocking means assumes a blocking position blocking any pulling away of the depilating tape from the supply.

3. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the application means comprise an application roller which is arranged in the area of the opening of the housing.

4. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 3,  
wherein a cutting device is provided, which cutting device is arranged adjacent to the application roller and is designed for cutting off the depilating tape in an area of depilating tape, which area of depilating tape has already passed the application roller.

5. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 2,  
wherein the supply of depilating tape is wound so as to form a supply spool wound onto a supply reel, and  
wherein the blocking means interacts with the supply reel.

6. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 5,  
wherein, in addition to the supply reel, a wind-up reel is provided, which wind-up reel is provided and designed for winding up depilating tape that was previously adhering to the skin of a person.

7. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 6,  
wherein a motor, accommodated in the housing, is provided, and  
wherein a drive connection is provided between the motor and the wind-up reel, so that the wind-up reel can be rotatably operated with the aid of the motor to wind up depilating tape which was previously adhering to the skin of a person.

8. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 7,  
wherein an interruptable drive connection is provided as the drive connection between the motor and the wind-up reel, and  
wherein means for interrupting the drive connection are provided.

9. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the means for interrupting the drive connection comprise a hand-operated control button, through the actuation of which the drive means can be interrupted.

10. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus of claim 1, further comprising  
a button having a first position that moves the heater from the home position to a contact position to contact the depilating tape against the tension of the spring, and places a lever in a release position that enables a pulling away of the depilating tape from the supply.

11. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus of claim 10,  
wherein the button, in a second position places the heater in the home position, and places the lever in a blocking position.

12. (Previously Presented) The depilating apparatus of claim 11,  
wherein the button, in a second position, activates a motor for causing a jerking movement for pulling away of the depilating tape from the supply.

13. (New) The depilating apparatus of claim 4, wherein the heater heats the application length of the depilating tape prior to the cutting device cutting the depilating tape.